

Tennessee Ethics Commission
July 31, 2012
Minutes

The Tennessee Ethics Commission met on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance office. Members present were: Jim Stranch, George Jaynes, Keith Norman, and Tammy White. Chairman Stranch called the meeting to order.

May 16, 2012 Minutes

Ms. White made the motion to approve the May 16, 2012 minutes and Mr. Jaynes seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Pam Martin joined the meeting at this time.

Requests for Reconsideration

Tabitha Denny (School Board Member – Van Buren County) – 2012-020

Ms. Denny submitted a request for reconsideration of the \$50 civil penalty assessed on March 29, 2012. Mr. Norman made the motion to reduce the assessment to \$25 and Ms. White seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Rebecca Durham (Commissioner – Sumner County) – 2012-031

Ms. Durham submitted a request for reconsideration of the \$150 civil penalty assessed on May 16, 2012. Ms. White made the motion to reduce the assessment to \$25 and Mr. Norman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Barry Newberry (Constable – Macon County) – 2012,032

Mr. Newberry submitted a request for reconsideration of the \$175 civil penalty assessed on May 16, 2012. Mr. Jaynes made the motion to reduce the assessment to \$100 and Mr. Stranch seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Kelly Hankins (State Executive Committee – Shelby County) – 2012-033

Ms. Hankins submitted a request for reconsideration of the \$275 civil penalty assessed on May 16, 2012. Ms. White made the motion to reduce the assessment to \$100 and Ms. Martin seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mary Annette Smith (School Board Member – Clay County) – 2012-038

Ms. Smith submitted a request for reconsideration of the \$10,000 civil penalty assessed on May 16, 2012. Mr. Norman made the motion to take no action on the request, as this was Ms. Smith's second Class 2 assessment, and Mr. Jaynes seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Tony Ross (Road Supervisor – Hardeman County) – 2012-040

Mr. Ross submitted a request for reconsideration of the \$10,000 civil penalty assessed on May 16, 2012. Mr. Jaynes made the motion to reduce the assessment to \$1,000, and Ms. White seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Requests for Reconsideration (continued)

Anthony Daniels (Lobbyist) – 2012-026

Mr. Daniels appeared before the Commission and requested reconsideration of the \$1,050 civil penalty assessed at the May 16, 2012 meeting. Ms. White made the motion to rescind the penalties for the three late registrations and reduce the fourth late registration from \$750 to \$300. Mr. Norman seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Metro Livery (Employer of Lobbyist) – 2012-054

Jeni Williams represented Metro Livery before the Commission and requested reconsideration of the \$750 civil penalty assessed on May 16, 2012, for failure to file an expenditure report. The Commission postponed reconsideration until the next meeting to give Metro Livery the opportunity to file the report.

TN Men's Health Network (Employer of Lobbyist) – 2012-047 and 2012-050

Michael Leventhal, Executive Director of TN Men's Health Network, requested reconsideration of the two \$200 civil penalties assessed on May 16, 2012. The penalties were assessed for late payment of registration fee and late filing of expenditure report. Mr. Norman made the motion to take no action on the request and Ms. Martin seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Civil Penalty Assessment – Office Holder

Kris D. Lewallen (Alderman, Appointed – Town of Huntsville) – 2012-058

Mr. Stranch made the motion to not assess a civil penalty and Mr. Norman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Civil Penalty Assessments – Candidates

Jacob Thor Stafford (Alderman-Gainesboro) – 2012-059

Ms. White made the motion to assess a \$25 penalty for filing 4 days late. Mr. Norman seconded the motion passed 5-0.

Teddy Bear Carson (Constable – Scott County) – 2012-061

Mr. Carson submitted a statement for the Commission to consider. Mr. Norman made the motion not to assess a civil penalty and Ms. Martin seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Dustin Hill (School Board – Grainger County) – 2012-062

Ms. White made the motion to assess a \$25 civil penalty and Mr. Norman seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Sandy Norris Smith (State Representative – 30th District) – 2012-063

Ms. Norris Smith submitted a statement for the Commission to consider. Ms. White made the motion to assess a \$25 civil penalty and Ms. Martin seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Other Business

Per a unanimous vote at the Bureau's March 29, 2012 meeting, each member of the Ethics Commission has completed an evaluation of Drew Rawlins, Executive Director. The evaluations have previously been submitted to Jim Stranch, Chairman. After discussion, the Ethics Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the Registry of Election Finance a pay increase of 5% - 10% for the Executive Director effective July 1, 2012.

This concluded the business of the regularly scheduled meeting and the meeting adjourned.